

WHY NOT A NEW SPRING FROCK FOR YOUR HOME? ASKS M'LISS

Luxuriant Window Boxes Can Imbue a House of Gloom and Dinginess With an Air of Vernal Freshness

HOW about your home: is it, too, going to receive a new spring garb? While discussing the subject of vernal costume—and is there room in the feminine brain at the present time for discussion of anything else?—do not forget that at a very small expenditure of money and as little energy you can inject the spirit of spring into your domicile so that its own next-door neighbor—even though it be a twin—would not recognize it.

I don't mean paint. That would be but a prosaic way of dressing up. The real answer is flowers—lovely, fresh spring ones in window boxes. Even the dingiest house or apartment will respond surprisingly to a few well-placed window boxes, and now is the time!

A horticulturist, however, tells me that seeds are unsatisfactory for window-box growth. They are slow and risky, sometimes refusing to respond to the shallow soil that necessarily obtains in a box.

"Nasturtiums, though," he said, "usually bloom from seed very well in a box, but I suggest young plants in the main. Marigolds, heliotrope, begonias, fuchsias, marguerites, ivy-leaf and geraniums—all give excellent results in a box. The marguerites are particularly effective when used as a background with nasturtiums. German ivy, which grows more rapidly than the English variety, can be gracefully used as a trailer from the front of the box."

Fansies and English daisies, I am also told, make a charming combination and have the virtue of blooming very early. In this climate it is quite possible to put such a box out as early as the first week in April. The pansies will live longer than the daisies. For those windows which do not receive as much sunshine as Providence intended every window to receive, you can substitute shade-loving ferns for the posies. Holly fern and ostrich plume flourish well.

And so, if you hadn't thought of it, consider the window-box. Remember the lovely German "burgs," the houses and buildings of which have been turned into veritable hanging gardens by the profusions of blossoms that depend from their windows.

Let Philadelphia bloom likewise, and likewise achieve a reputation for beauty that these continental towns have acquired. Give your home its new spring dress. There is no other object which gives such a maximum amount of pleasure for such a minimum cost of attention and money.

More About Women Guides

For the benefit of those of my readers who were interested in the subject of women guides for Philadelphia, I am publishing a letter which I received from one of the secretaries of the City History Club, of New York, which organization has a guide bureau.

"I would suggest," she writes, "that the women who desire to do this work should prepare themselves, first, as to points of interest in Philadelphia, historic, civic and modern sightseeing; make out some itineraries that would be attractive, as Independence Hall, Carpenter Hall, Betsy Ross House, Franklin's grave in the Quaker churchyard, Penn state, the Historical Society and other places of civic interest; the City Building, some manufacturing plant, or large store welfare work; telling the history of each place and some interesting story, as that one about 'the Penn being mightier than the sword,' when the Penn statue was erected in the square, 'Franklin's rising from his grave at the placing of a nickel on the stone,' and many others that come to one who searches for the quaint 'it-is-said' things. They are what make the trip interesting, and one who knows her subject will make it interesting.

"The itineraries should be taken to hotels where conventions, etc., meet, and getting in touch with the committees of such ought to secure an engagement for the party to be taken on sightseeing trips."

Do any of my readers know the incident of the placing of a nickel on the stone? I must confess that this is over my head and is also "news" to several good Philadelphians I have consulted.

Letters to the Editor of the Woman's Page

Address all communications to M'LISS, care of the Evening Ledger. Write on one side of the paper only.

Dear M'LISS—Will you please explain to me the difference between a show and a play? Thanking you very much, I am sincerely yours, H. M.

"Play" in the word, and always has been, for an example of the "legitimate" drama. The Elizabethans spoke of their dramas as plays. To be "legitimate" a play has to have a thesis or proposition which leads up to a dramatic climax and then to the solution.

The proposition of "Macbeth," for instance, is this: A corrupt noble, having murdered his king, succeeds to his throne. Will his evil conscience betray him? This leads to the climax, which answers the question in the affirmative. Once betrayed by his conscience, will he still be able to defy the forces of good arrayed against him? The solution is that he will go down before these forces.

A drama thus involves conflict, and in proportion as that conflict is over a moral issue one can say it is worthy of being called a drama or a play. But when a theatrical composition, however imitative of the external mechanical appearance of a real play, places all emphasis on mere scenic effect or the conflict of "situation" rather than the moral conflict, it can be called a "show."

A real drama can, of course, be spectacular, like "Henry V." The chief test lies in the question whether any moral values are at stake in the working out of the playwright's idea. If there are no moral values at stake, you can safely call the performance a "show."

Dear M'LISS—Firstly, I wish to tell you how interesting and helpful I find your daily column. It is ever a source of enjoyment and help to me and also to numbers of my friends.

I secondly, I would like you to answer some questions for me. I have a "Horse Chest" in which I have linen and crepe de chine underwear. I am not to be married for about two years and I would like to know if it is best to launder the linens or leave them new. Also is there any danger of the underwear splitting when worn. The articles are all valuable and I wish them to be well preserved when I am ready to use them.

Thanking you for your great helpfulness at all times, I am, truly yours, A SINCERE ADMIRER.

A linen expert tells me that it would be well to launder your linen two or three times a year. Do not iron it until you are ready to take it out of your chest for good. Like silk, linen splits, he says, therefore, that it would be better to roll it than to fold it. Keeping it in blue paper will prevent its yellowing. This is true also of white silk.

Your crepe de chine wear should be stuffed with soft tissue paper to prevent its falling into sharp creases. It ought not to split if carefully packed in this way.

Dear M'LISS—There was some reference made to palindromes in your column the other evening, which recalled to my mind the following: SATOR AREPO TENET OPERA ROTAS. Thank you, E. W. K.

Dear M'LISS—I am one of those—old-

SEEN IN THE SHOPS



AN EASTER OUTFIT FOR THE TOT

HOUSEHOLD PHYSICS

THE DOORBELL Is Your Doorbell Out of Order?

By VIRGINIA E. KIFT

WERE you ever greeted on reaching the house of a friend with a printed direction to "Please Knock—Bell Out of Order?" Of course you did not follow out the request exactly; the door and not the bell being the thing which you nearly "knocked out of order."

Before you send for an electrician, who will charge 50 cents or a dollar for the job, do a little investigating yourself. Find out what is troubling your bell and then start in and fix it.

The most frequent fault to be found in the doorbell which refuses to ring is that the "contacts" in the push button need "brightening" (sandpapering). Armed with a screwdriver and emery paper (about No. 00 fine), remove the brass plate from the doorbell push, taking care not to lose the button. With the emery paper "brighten" the two metal "contacts"—the wires which touch



fuses to ring, visit the batteries in the cellar. Have you will find one of two kinds of batteries or cells, "wet" or "dry." To discover if these batteries are really worn out take a spare bell or detach the one from the kitchen and carry it to the cellar. On both the battery and the bell (as shown in diagram) are two screw knobs, known as binding posts. Put the ends of two wires attached to the bell posts against the binding posts of each of the batteries, and if the bell does not ring, that battery or cell is worn out and should be replaced.

A "dry" cell cannot be fixed and a new one must be procured (usual cost 20 cents). A "wet" or "sal ammoniac" cell, however, is easily repaired. In the center or at the side of the black carbon plate are two binding posts. Remove this and scrape off all the white crystals until the metal is quite clean. enclose the battery in a paper envelope, and when it is eaten away, a new one can be had for 3 cents. Replace the carbon plate in the cylinder and again test the battery with the bell. If it remains silent, remove the carbon cylinder and bore it, which will restore its usefulness. If the solution in the cell seems dirty, a "charge" of "sal ammoniac" (ammonium chloride) at the hardware store (5 cents a package) and make up a new solution.

When you have repaired each worn-out cell replace it on the battery shelf and "wire up" again. A small error in wire connections will keep the bell from ringing, so be sure always to have the wire from the center of one cell to the rim of the next—never connect two centers or two rims.

When you are sure all the batteries ring and the wiring is correct, replace the bell on the kitchen wall and "connect up" as before.

With the push button brightened, the batteries made new and the connections perfect, the bell will surely ring. Instead of paying an electrician 50 cents or \$1, you have spent only 15 minutes of time, 15 cents in money and have established to a small extent in the interesting physics of electricity. Was it worth the trouble? If your bell has an "out-of-order" sign above it, try for yourself and see.

Copyright 1910 by Virginia E. Kift.

Return of the Petticoat The new silk petticoats aim at style rather than utility, although there are many models which combine both qualities. Colors include royal purple, cerise, vivid green, rose, Belgian blue and gold with brilliant striped effects. Many of the more expensive models show smocking, hand-tucking and hemstitching. A striking style has the top of one color with a contrasting flounce. The same scheme is seen in changeable and flowered silks. The Japanese influence is noticeable on the soft silks figured with miniature pagodas, birds, wisteria blossoms and other like ornaments. One very extravagant skirt was made of stiff pink taffeta, with a silver thread trimming.

Handbag Novelties The newest handbags have linings of pale green satin-striped silk. The clasp is of jade to match. Silk is not so popular as leather this season. Shapes are round at the top and culminate in a large tassel at the bottom.

ASK FOR and GET HORLICK'S THE ORIGINAL MALTED MILK Cheap substitutes cost YOU same price

use to ring, visit the batteries in the cellar. Have you will find one of two kinds of batteries or cells, "wet" or "dry." To discover if these batteries are really worn out take a spare bell or detach the one from the kitchen and carry it to the cellar. On both the battery and the bell (as shown in diagram) are two screw knobs, known as binding posts. Put the ends of two wires attached to the bell posts against the binding posts of each of the batteries, and if the bell does not ring, that battery or cell is worn out and should be replaced.

A "dry" cell cannot be fixed and a new one must be procured (usual cost 20 cents). A "wet" or "sal ammoniac" cell, however, is easily repaired. In the center or at the side of the black carbon plate are two binding posts. Remove this and scrape off all the white crystals until the metal is quite clean. enclose the battery in a paper envelope, and when it is eaten away, a new one can be had for 3 cents. Replace the carbon plate in the cylinder and again test the battery with the bell. If it remains silent, remove the carbon cylinder and bore it, which will restore its usefulness. If the solution in the cell seems dirty, a "charge" of "sal ammoniac" (ammonium chloride) at the hardware store (5 cents a package) and make up a new solution.

When you have repaired each worn-out cell replace it on the battery shelf and "wire up" again. A small error in wire connections will keep the bell from ringing, so be sure always to have the wire from the center of one cell to the rim of the next—never connect two centers or two rims.

When you are sure all the batteries ring and the wiring is correct, replace the bell on the kitchen wall and "connect up" as before.

With the push button brightened, the batteries made new and the connections perfect, the bell will surely ring. Instead of paying an electrician 50 cents or \$1, you have spent only 15 minutes of time, 15 cents in money and have established to a small extent in the interesting physics of electricity. Was it worth the trouble? If your bell has an "out-of-order" sign above it, try for yourself and see.

Copyright 1910 by Virginia E. Kift.

Nippon styles in gold-embroidered Chinese blue silk are smart. Smocking is seen on the very ultra models. Handles are long-twisted silk cords; metallic cordings and smooth gros-grain loops are seen. Everything is done, in fact, to protect the wearer's white kid gloves from getting soiled, a thing which happens too frequently when chains are attached to the handbag.

All-beads form another bag. Colors include China blue, tans, greens, gold and black. Clasps are jeweled.

The greater strength and richer flavor of WILBUR'S COCOA come solely from using the very best cocoa beans and from developing every particle of their natural quality.

There are some foods which are easily digested and there are other foods which have a lot of energy—but there is no food having both, which has them in as highly satisfactory a degree as Cream of Barley (At Your Grocer's)

LAUGH AND GIVE PSYCHOLOGY A SHOW, DOCTOR ADVISES

By WILLIAM BRADY, M. D.

FROM time to time we have let loose our unbridled ridicule upon the diagnosis or guess of "nervous dyspepsia" in this column and in correspondence with readers. Now, in order to be perfectly fair, we are obliged to eat our words. Sometimes dyspepsia really can be nervous, we have just discovered. We are young yet. We'll learn.

Paulow, the great Russian physiologist, who did a delicate surgical operation whereby he was able to divide off a pouch from a dog's stomach and make a little opening into the pouch to permit of observation and study, found that the mere sight and smell of savory food instituted a prompt flow of gastric juice, even if the food never entered the stomach. Further, he found that if the dog was given food, and the psychic influence induced a free flow of juice, this flow persisted for some time, even after the food was removed from the dog's all, he learned that if the flow was thus induced, and then the dog was emotionally aroused by the sight of a cat, the flow promptly ceased, and could not be restored for some time afterward, even if food was offered. The dog, it is plain, had psychic dyspepsia—or would have if fed while his anger or rage was thus inhibiting or preventing the secretion of the digestive fluid.

Identical observations have been made by numerous other physiologists, notably Professor Cannon, of Harvard. And that the same psychic or nervous influences prevail in man is borne out by several cases of gastric fistula—that is, an opening made through the side into the stomach, for feeding purposes, in patients with some obstruction of the esophagus or gullet.

Wherefore we retract, revoke, shift our ground, back down and apologize. "Nervous dyspepsia" is. There's nothing indelible about it, after all. You simple worry, get angry, stew, fuss or whine over your dinner—and secretion stops; you feel that load or fulness like a lump in your stomach, and you rush for your dyspepsia tablets, which don't do a bit of good.

Don't ask us to advise a remedy for nervous dyspepsia. Buy a phonograph, study the humorous column, crack some jokes about friend wife's cooking, or pull your neighbor's chair away just as he goes to sit down—anything to cheer up the

atmosphere and give old Doctor Psychology a show.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Tight Collars and Blackheads

A doctor told me my high, tight collars (I wear waists and like my collars tight) will prevent curing blackheads with which my face is covered. Is this correct?

Answer—Anything that tends to congestion of the skin will favor the formation of blackheads, which are senescent ducts clogged with unnaturally thick oil or sebum.

Witch Hazel and the Eyes

In witch hazel a good and safe wash for weak eyes? Have tried it once, and it makes my eyes feel good.

Answer—Extract of witch hazel con-

taina alcohol, which is an irritant to the eye. Better, we think, in boric acid in all the powdered boric acid you can solve in boiled water.

Style Hints

Pastel colorings are noticeable on newest spring neckwear. The influence of the cape isn't confined to suits to wear with the coat; for dainty men in organdie, crepe, batiste and chiffon-trimmed, with ruffles, shirring, triple, according to fancy. They touch of smoking for trimming.

Pleasant pink and baby blue seem to be favored colorings for fancy neckwear. Chemiselets, gimpes, with or without sleeves, and all kinds of smart accessories are used to give a note of freshness to last season's frock.

The popularity for colored skirts and white houses is predicted and the tendency is to select hosiery, shoes, hats and neckwear to harmonize, so when you plan your summer wardrobe remember to keep the colors in mind.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure Continues to maintain its preeminence for making the finest and most wholesome food. No ALUM—No PHOSPHATE

Fuel For Those Human Engines

A boy—a regular boy—tremendously active, enormously energetic—he's a human steam-engine, is a regular boy. He doesn't stick to the track—he doesn't stick to the road—he doesn't stick to anything except action—but he's a human steam engine—and he has to have fuel. His food is his fuel.

Cream of Barley

Never forget that your boy is an engine, and never forget that he's human, too!

You can stoke an engine with shavings and excelsior—and it will make a hot fire for a few minutes. But it won't do much good. And if you give a boy a light, unsatisfying food, it will keep him going an hour or so—but it won't do him much good.

You may stoke an engine with heavy, under-grade coal. It will keep burning a long time—but it won't do much good—because that kind of coal doesn't produce much energy. And it won't do a boy much good to give him a lot of soggy, indigestible food. It will keep his stomach full a long time, but it won't do him much good. It will hurt him.

You will have to give a boy food that will be easily digested and will furnish a lasting supply of energy—just as you have to give an engine fuel that will burn well and keep on burning.

There are some foods which are easily digested and there are other foods which have a lot of energy—but there is no food having both, which has them in as highly satisfactory a degree as Cream of Barley (At Your Grocer's)

MILLIE AND HER MILLIONS FIDO IS SO HELPLESS

Comic strip featuring Millie and her dog Fido. Millie asks Fido if he's tired, and Fido responds with various humorous replies. The strip ends with Fido being lifted down.